REMARKS

By the foregoing amendment, claims 2, 6, 11, 15, 24, 31, 38, 47, and 50 are amended, and claim 57 is added to more clearly and distinctly claim the invention. New claim 57 finds support, for example, throughout the specification and in original claim 19. The amendments are merely made to correct minor informalities in the claims. No new matter is added by these amendments.

Accordingly, Applicants do not intend to surrender any range of equivalents under the Doctrine of Equivalents in regard to any claim limitation that appears in the final claims in any patent that may issue from this or any related application. Applicants expressly reserve the right to resort to the Doctrine of Equivalents for all limitations in regard to any future assertion of infringement of any claim, whether the limitation was present in an original claim or added by amendment to a claim or referenced in any argument to distinguish any claim from any prior art. All claims in any patent issued from this or any related application represent a statutorily presumed valid and patentable combination of structure and/or steps, and it is this combination which is presumed to patentably distinguished from the prior art, not any particular limitation of any claim.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT Application No.: 10/797,877 Attorney Docket No.: EI-7630

<u>Fees</u>

It is believed there are no fees associated with this filing. However, in the event the calculations are incorrect, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 05-1372.

Respectfully Submitted,

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